

I welcome my three days rest & the chance
of obtaining eight solid hrs. sleep in my
barrack. During my first few days in
the trenches, I went as long as three days & nights
without any sleep. But I am still fit & after
a night of sleep in a billet, feel in perfect
condition. Lucy wondered if I was still the
same in appearance. you ought to see me
at the end of three days in the trenches, we
don't get a wash the whole time, the trenches
are made in muddy clay, also in the day-
time we have fires, my hair has been clipped
off completely for health reasons, so you may
know we look a horrible dirty sight.

Our casualties have been rather severe
considering we have not been in any
particularly battle. I'm not a bit bad
when I saw my first man shot down, but
we were get used to casualties. The German
trenches are in some places only 50 yds away
in others 500 yds. From our trench we can hear
them laughing & shouting & the other night
we heard them singing. On Christmas Eve
we shall sing Christmas Carols to them. Write
me a letter, also ask Gordon & Lenny too.
Will you thank Mrs. Parkinson (Rev.) & Mr W.
Wright for their kind letters, I havnt had
time to write. Send me envelopes & note paper
etc. Also a cheap pocket flash lamp (1/6) & two
cells please. I may write again so-
on.

Yours sincerely
P. J. J.